

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Bruce Braley (IA-01) released the following statement on the passing of Brooklyn, IA community leader Bev Rens:

“My thoughts and prayers are with Bev’s family, friends and loved ones. Bev Rens was a heroic Iowan. She was passionate and fierce in her dedication to her friends, her state, and her country. Bev always took life head-on, and that’s exactly the way she addressed the disease that took her from us – Lou Gehrig’s disease, or ALS. She will be truly missed by all of us who had the privilege to know her.

“Just this month, I’ve fought for major investments in research and prevention of this cruel disease. Iowa families who’ve battled and seen ALS firsthand know that we need more resources to successfully combat and end this disease. I’m also proud to have helped pass the ALS Registry Act, which will coordinate federal efforts and help us conduct outreach to make sure those who suffer from this disease are cared for in the best possible ways. With education, care, and research, we can stop ALS – and I certainly won’t let up until we do. Bev wouldn’t have it any other way.”

Earlier this year, Rep. Braley gave a floor speech honoring Bev:

Copies of Rep. Braley’s letters urging for more funding for ALS research are available here: <http://go.usa.gov/DBq>

and here:

<http://go.usa.gov/DBi>